

## Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 JUSE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-05

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-02 NSC-05 /029 W

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R 191205Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9093

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9811

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, IR

SUBJ: GOI PROPOSAL FOR AGREEMENT ON HANDLING MILITARY DESERTERS

REF: STATE 252441

SUMMARY: WE RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT RESIST IRANIAN EMBASSY EFFORTS FOR A SOFA AGREEMENT TO COVER DESERTION, SUGGESTING STUDY OF PROBLEM AND POINTING OUT THAT ALL STEPS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN TO DEAL WITH DESERTION UNDER EXISTING REGULATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN EXHAUSTED. END SUMMARY.

1. NEITHER MFA NOR IRANIAN MILITARY LEADERSHIP HAS APPROACHED EMBASSY OR ARMISH/MAAG RE SPECIFIC PROBLEM OF IRANIAN DESERTERS IN US. SOME MONTHS AGO MFA RAISED POSSIBILITY OF GENERAL AGREEMENT TO LIMIT BRAIN DRAIN, BUT MILITARY DESERTION WAS NOT MENTIONED IN THAT CONTEXT. ONLY DISCUSSION OF DESERTION WE HAVE HAD WITH IRANIANS WAS BRIEFING ON PROBLEM AND US REGULATIONS WHICH EMBOFF VOLUNTEERED FOR IIN PERSONNEL CHIEF EARLIER THIS YEAR.

2. IN PROCESSING INS REQUESTS FOR DOCUMENTS WHICH WOULD FACILITATE EXPULSION OF IRANIAN DESERTERS (E.G., PROOG OF MARITAL STATUS PRIOR TO MARRIAGE IN THE US), CONSULATE HAS EXPERIENCED GREAT DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING EFFICIENT COOPERATION FROM MFA. ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT IRANIAN EMBASSY DOES NOT PROVIDE EARLY NOTIFICATION OF MISSING IRANIAN SERVICEMEN TO INS. FURTHER, WE HAVE IMPRESSION  
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THERE IS A LACK OF HARD INFORMATION ON SCOPE OF PROBLEM. WE BEL-

IEVE THAT BEFORE WE MOVE TO STAGE OF CONSIDERING A SOFA-TYPE AGREEMENT WE SHOULD ASSURE THAT WE HAVE PRECISE INFORMATION ON SIZE OF PROBLEM AND HAVE THOROUGHLY EXHAUSED ALL MEASURES FOR DEALING WITH IRANIAN DESERTERS ON AD HOC BASIS.

3. WHATEVER MEASURES DEPARTMENT TAKES ON THIS PROBLEM, WE HOPE DISCUSSIONS CAN BE STRUCTURED SO AS NOT TO TOUCH ON STATUS OF US FORCES IN IRAN. WE HAVE A VERY SATISFACTORY SITUATION HERE WHICH WE WOULD NOT WISH TO SEE CHANGES AS A RESULT OF PROBLEMS ARISING IN THE US.

HELMS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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